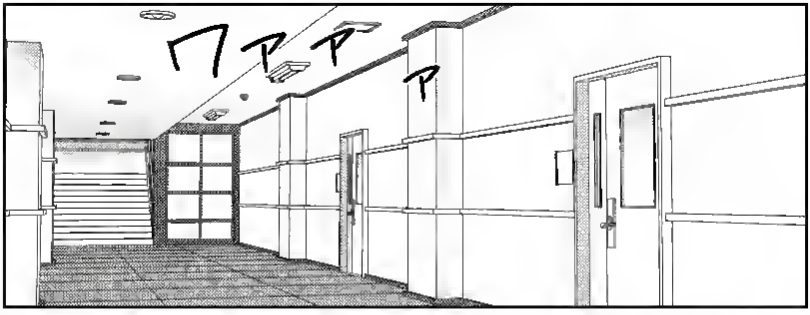
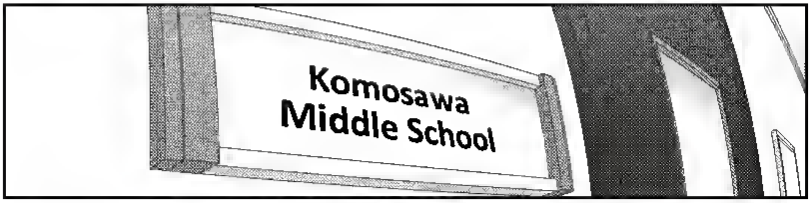
SHINOHAYU
the dawn of age

Story: Kobayashi Ritz Art: Igarashi Aguri

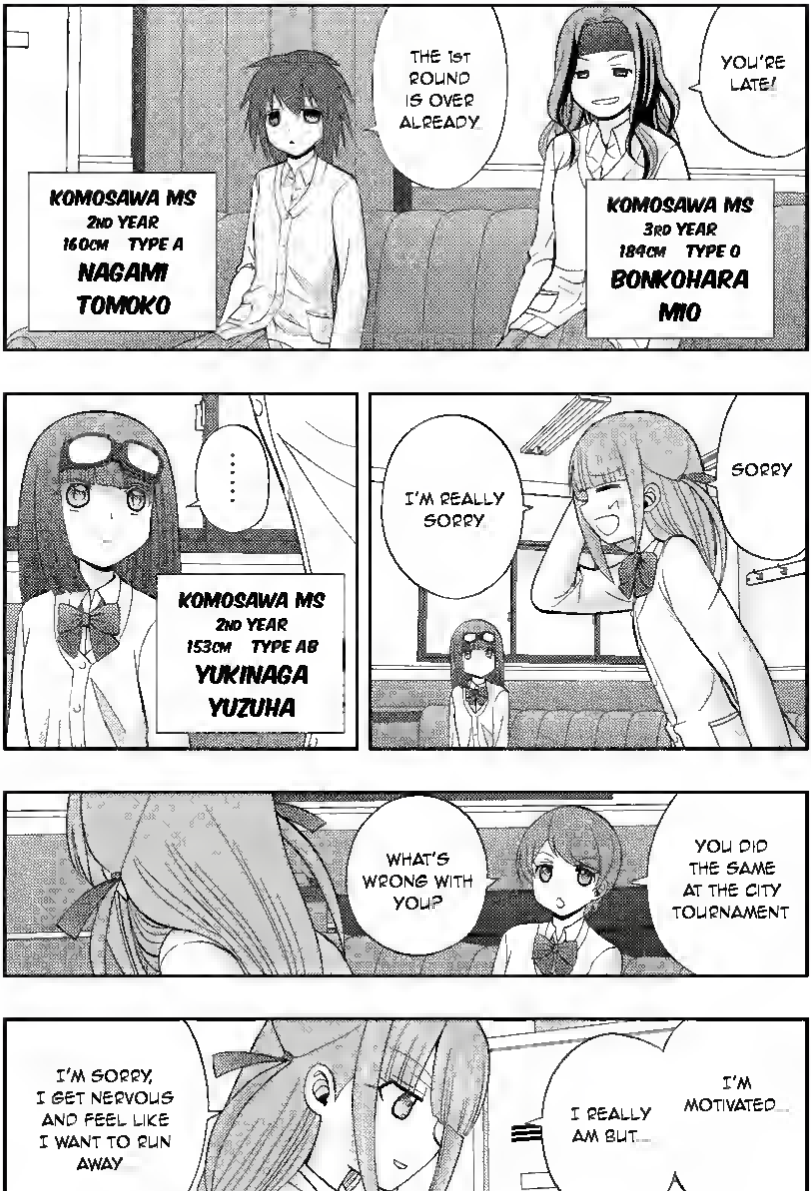


Chapter 43: A Little Known Event



THE FIRST FINALIST HAS BEEN DECIDED. AS EXPECTED, IT'S THE SCHOOL THAT HAS REPRESENTED SHIMANE PREFECTURE FOR THE LAST 7 YEARS: KOMOSAWA MIDDLE.

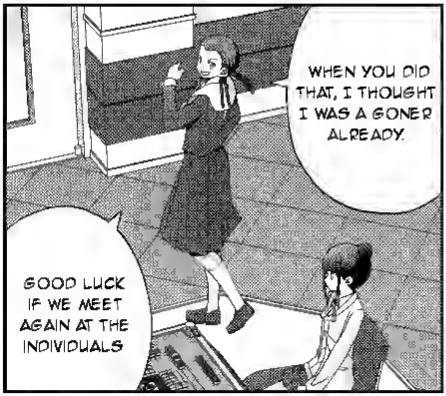
CLACK
KOMOSAWA MS
3RD YEAR
158CM TYPE A
KAJINO YUI
CHIHIRO HASN'T ARRIVED YET?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!!
I WAS DELAYED
KOMOSAWA MS
1ST YEAR
140CM TYPE O
MUKUNOKI CHIHIRO


KOMOSAWA MS
2ND YEAR
160CM TYPE A
NAGAMI
TOMOKO
THE 1ST ROUND IS OVER ALREADY
YOU'RE LATE!
KOMOSAWA MS
3RD YEAR
184CM TYPE O
BONKOHARA
MIO
.....
KOMOSAWA MS
2ND YEAR
153CM TYPE AB
YUKINAGA
YUZUHA
I'M REALLY SORRY
SORRY
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
YOU DID THE SAME AT THE CITY TOURNAMENT
I'M SORRY, I GET NERVOUS AND FEEL LIKE I WANT TO RUN AWAY
I REALLY AM BUT...
I'M MOTIVATED...

THAT'S RIGHT.
EVEN WITH ALL YOUR MOTIVATION AND CONFIDENCE?
THAT'S FUNNY
TOMOKO
FOR THE INDIVIDUALS TOMORROW, PUT HER ON A LEASH AND DRAG HER HERE.
OK, GOT IT
THE LIEUTENANT MATCH AT TABLE C HAS ENDED!!
bleh~
I'M NOT A PET
I KNOW

GA HA HA
I TOTALLY FREAKED OUT WHEN YOU PULLED THAT SAN'ANKOU AT THE END OF THE EAST ROUND

THAT WAS CLOSE EH, YUMACHI?

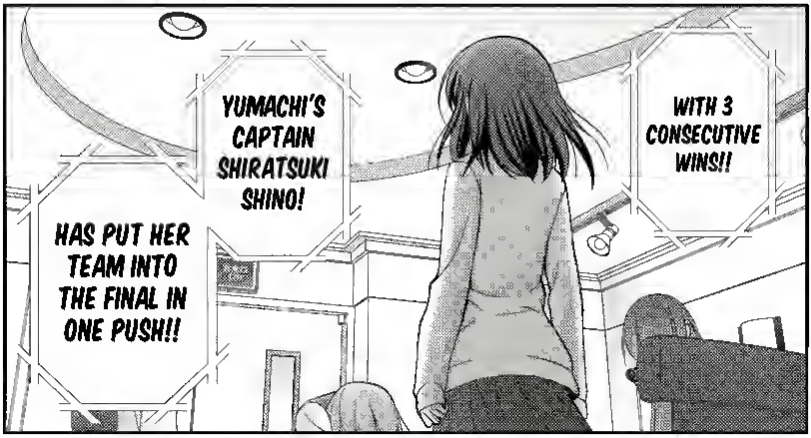

WHEN YOU DID THAT, I THOUGHT I WAS A GONER ALREADY.
GOOD LUCK IF WE MEET AGAIN AT THE INDIVIDUALS

BUT IN THE END YOU OVERTOOK ME, AND BEING 2ND IS MEANINGLESS
NO, NO.

#E
#E
#E
SERGEANT:
KANNA
1ST PLACE
yummy~
VANGUARD: RIO
2ND PLACE
Yumachi
Middle School
LIEUTENANT:
KYOUKA
2ND PLACE
IT REALLY HURTS
IT HURTS, HUH?
IT HURTS
GRR-
YOU DID WELL BUT TSUCHIE FROM FUKUURA MIDDLE IS PRETTY STRONG
YOUR WIN IS GETTING TO YOUR HEAD
TO CLIMB THIS MOUNTAIN.
THEN USE THIS PAIN AS A PLATFORM

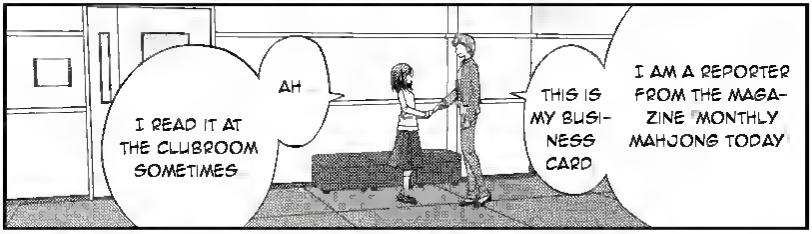
7700!
RON!
VICE-CAPTAIN:
HAYARI
1ST PLACE
TSUMO

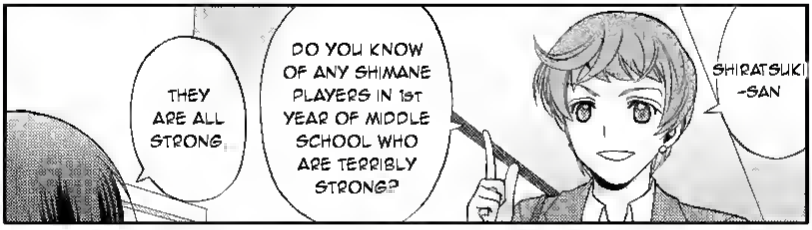
DOUBLE NAN, HATSU DORA 3,
3000/ 6000.


YUMACHI'S CAPTAIN SHIRATSUKI SHINO!
WITH 3 CONSECUTIVE WINS!!
HAS PUT HER TEAM INTO THE FINAL IN ONE PUSH!!

HOLY SHIT, DID YOU SEE THAT?
THE LAST 3 ROUNDS SHE WON THEM ALL WITH THE 1-SOU
MRR
OH, YEAH!!
OH!!
SHIRATSUKI SHINO!
AS EXPECTED FROM THE 3RD IN THE COUNTRY. WHAT WAS HER NAME AGAIN?
AH
YES
PFFF
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GUY...?
SHIRATSUKI -SAN

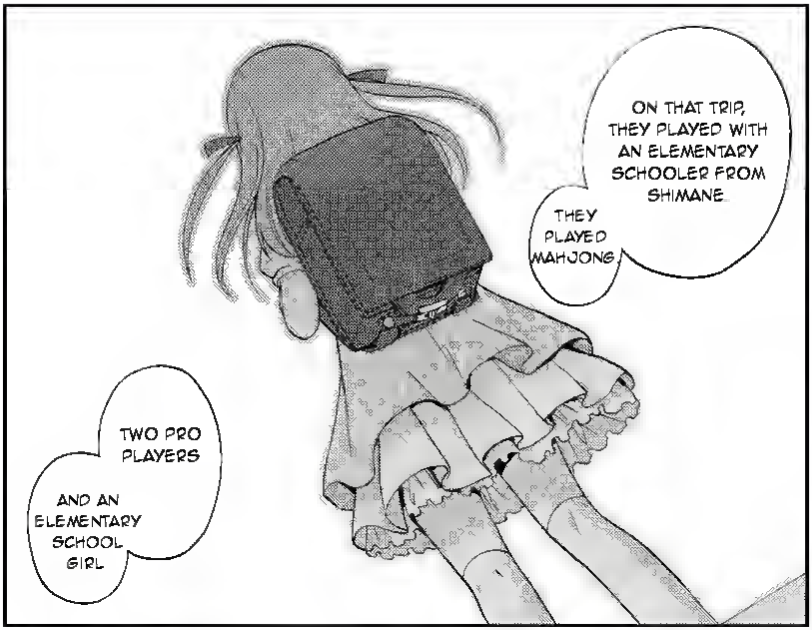
WHO ARE YOU?
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?


I AM A REPORTER FROM THE MAGAZINE "MONTHLY MAHJONG TODAY"
THIS IS MY BUSINESS CARD
AH
I READ IT AT THE CLUBROOM SOMETIMES


SHIRATSUKI-SAN
DO YOU KNOW OF ANY SHIMANE PLAYERS IN 1ST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL WHO ARE TERRIBLY STRONG?
THEY ARE ALL STRONG

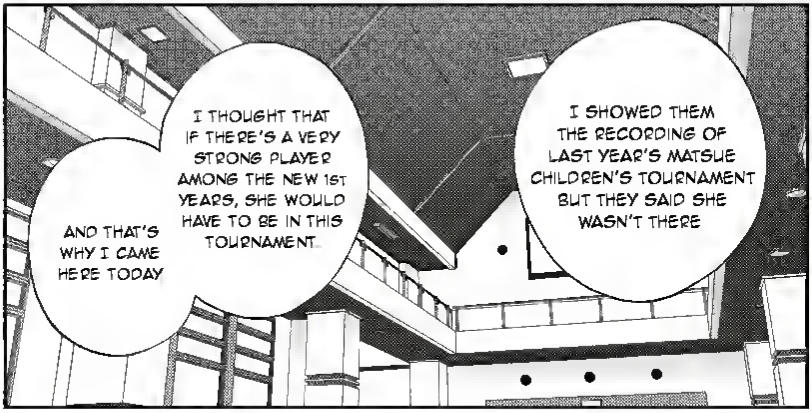
HMM
THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF ANSWER I WAS HOPING FOR
EH!?
YES...

YUE-CHAN FROM MANBARA MIDDLE...
FOR EXAMPLE, THE OTHER 1ST YEARS IN MY CLUB,
?
I GUESS THIS ISN'T WORKING...
.....
HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE INTERHIGH CHAMPION FROM 2 YEARS AGO?
2 YEARS AGO?
UMM...
I THINK HER NAME STARTED WITH 'YA'
YAJI KANON.
AH, YES...
SHE TURNED PRO LAST YEAR, RIGHT?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
SHE AND A SENPAI OF HERS WHO IS ALSO A PRO TOOK A TRIP TO SHIMANE
LAST YEAR

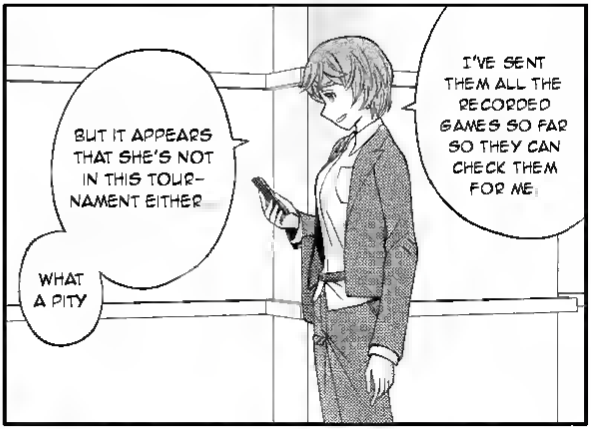

ON THAT TRIP, THEY PLAYED WITH AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER FROM SHIMANE.
THEY PLAYED MAHJONG.
TWO PRO PLAYERS
AND AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRL

THEY PLAYED 3 TIMES AND THAT LITTLE GIRL DEFEATED THEM ALL 3 TIMES.
!?

I'M INTERESTED IN THAT MYSTERIOUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRL
BUT BOTH PROS CAME OUT WITH THE SORRY EXCUSE THAT THEY COULDN'T REMEMBER HER NAME OR SOMETHING


I SHOWED THEM THE RECORDING OF LAST YEAR'S MATSUE CHILDREN'S TOURNAMENT BUT THEY SAID SHE WASN'T THERE
I THOUGHT THAT IF THERE'S A VERY STRONG PLAYER AMONG THE NEW 1ST YEARS, SHE WOULD HAVE TO BE IN THIS TOURNAMENT
AND THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE TODAY

NO...

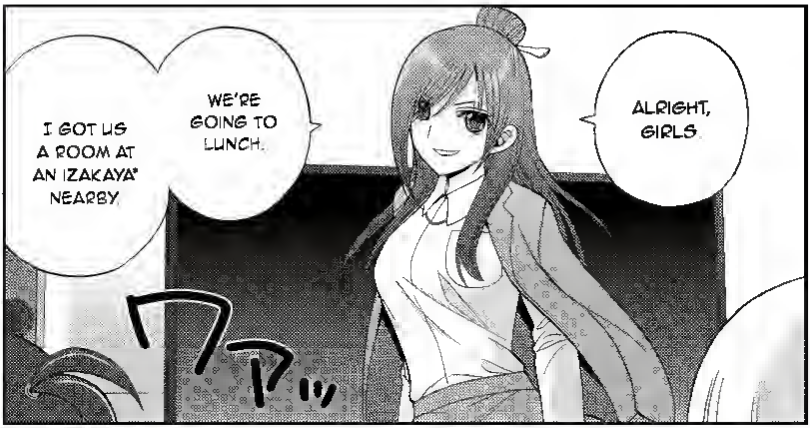

I'VE SENT THEM ALL THE RECORDED GAMES SO FAR SO THEY CAN CHECK THEM FOR ME
BUT IT APPEARS THAT SHE'S NOT IN THIS TOURNAMENT EITHER
WHAT A PITY

THE MATCH ON TABLE D FINISHED AT THE LIEUTENANT MATCH, SO THE CAPTAINS AND VICE-CAPTAINS DIDN'T APPEAR ON CAMERA
HINO
TEBI
KOMO
YAKA
THERE'S A GIRL WHO HASN'T BEEN SHOWN ON CAMERA YET
A 1ST YEAR
EH!?
REALLY!?
THERE'S ONLY ONE 1ST YEAR AMONG THOSE 8 STUDENTS
AH!
HOW COULD I HAVE MISSED THAT!
YOU'RE RIGHT!

THEIR CAPTAIN...
SHE'S A 1ST YEAR AT KOMOSAWA MIDDLE, THE SCHOOL THAT HAS WON THIS TOURNAMENT MULTIPLE TIMES...
MUKUNOKI CHIHIRO!

WHAT THE HELL!?
Yumachi Middle School
WHAT AN IDIOT! DIDN'T SHE REALIZE?
YOU THINK SO?
WHAT A RUDE REPORTER!
DIFFERENT PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN DIFFERENT THINGS, THERE'S NO HELPING IT
ONLY HER WOULD THINK THAT
SHE THINKS THAT MYSTERY GIRL IS MORE INTERESTING THAN SHINO?
AND EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T, SHE COULD GET INFOR-MATION
HMPF
IT'S THE PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT, SHE THOUGHT SHE MIGHT FIND THAT GIRL HERE
ANYWAY, WHY DID SHE COME HERE TODAY?

YOU DISLIKE HER TOO MUCH
SHE PROBABLY THOUGHT THAT SHINO MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING.
BUT WHY DID SHE HAVE TO DROP ALL THAT STORY ON SHINO. THAT'S HARASSMENT, ISN'T IT?



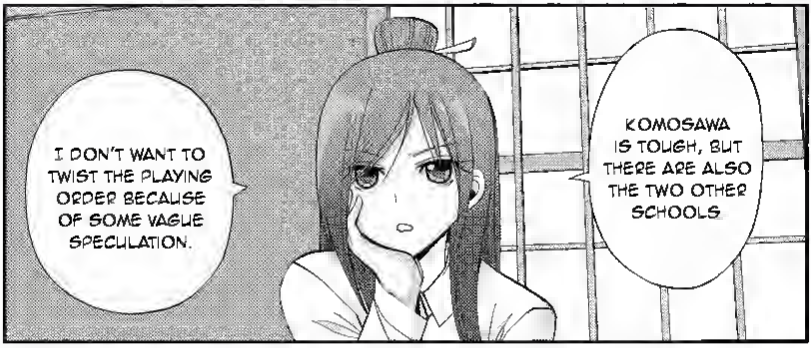
*TL note: an izakaya is a type of japanese pub where one usually goes to drink sake after work. They also serve food

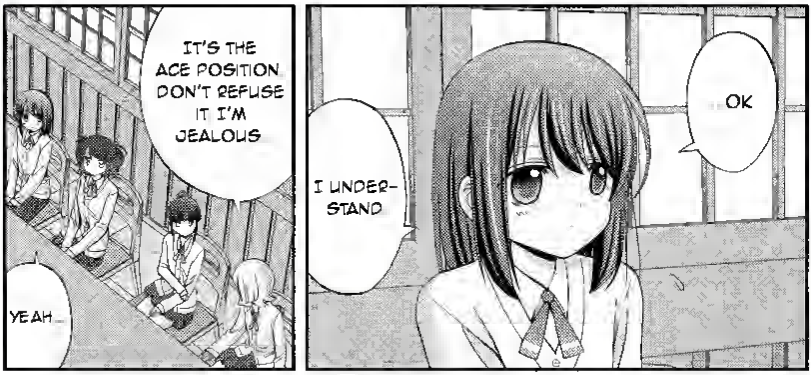
NO DRINKING, I SAID!
THAT'S AN INVITATION TO DRINK AS A PRESENT FOR WINNING THE 1ST ROUND AND REACHING THE FINAL!!
THE PLACE JUST HAPPENS TO BE AN IZAKAYA.
WE GO DRINKING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY!?
SEEMS FUN~

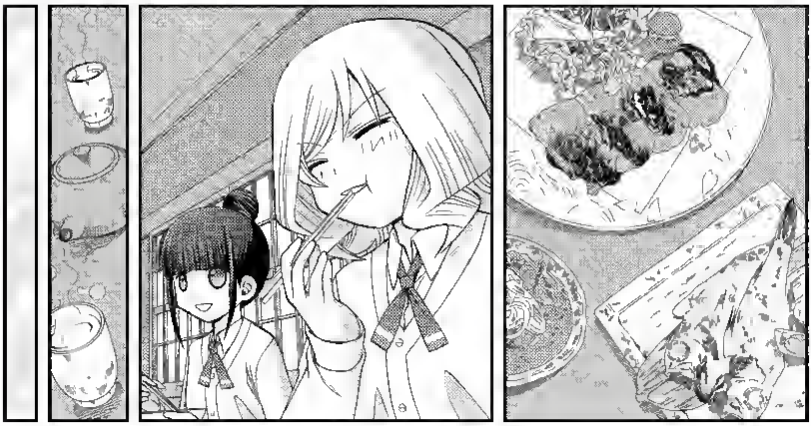
YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY TIMID!
WE OON'T WANT PEOPLE TO LOOK AT US WEIRO.
ALSO, OON'T MAKE A RACKET RAISING TOASTS ANO SUCH, OK?
WE'RE HAVING A MEETING AT AN IZAKAYA!!
OK THEN, THE PLAYING ORDER FOR THE FINAL
FU #A #A
WERE YOU TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING CLEVER THERE?
WE HAVE TO DECIDE THE ORDER, BESIDES THE FOOD

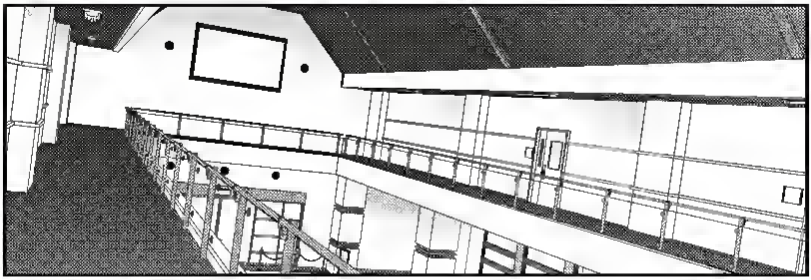
Vanguard	Shino
Sergeant	Kanna
Lieutenant	Kyouka
Vice-captain	Hayari
Captain	Shizuku

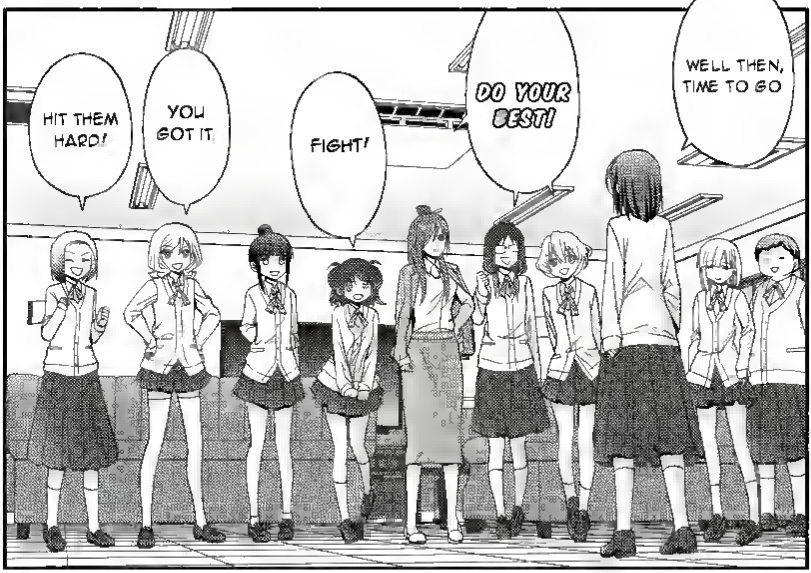
REALLY?
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SHE'S REALLY STRONG
IT'S THE KOMOSAWA 1ST YEAR CAPTAIN
YES, I KNOW BUT
BUT WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE IF THAT MYSTERY GIRL REALLY IS KOMOSAWA'S CAPTAIN?
BUT IF KOMOSAWA'S CAPTAIN REALLY IS THAT STRONG, HER TEAM MIGHT ALSO SWAP HER FOR THEIR VANGUARD, RIGHT?
I DON'T GET IT, ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANT TO PLAY AGAINST A STRONGER OPPONENT?
BEING THE VANGUARD MIGHT BE A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ME OR SOMETHING
EVEN IF KOMOSAWA DON'T MAKE ANY CHANGES, THEIR VANGUARD IS ALREADY PLENTY STRONG

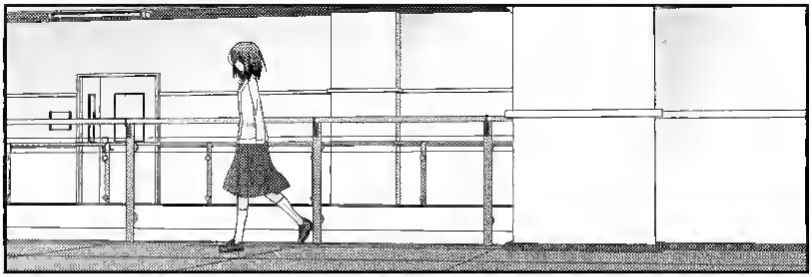

I DON'T WANT TO TWIST THE PLAYING ORDER BECAUSE OF SOME VAGUE SPECULATION.
KOMOSAWA IS TOUGH, BUT THERE ARE ALSO THE TWO OTHER SCHOOLS


IT'S THE ACE POSITION. DON'T REFUSE IT. I'M JEALOUS
YEAH...
I UNDER-STAND
OK





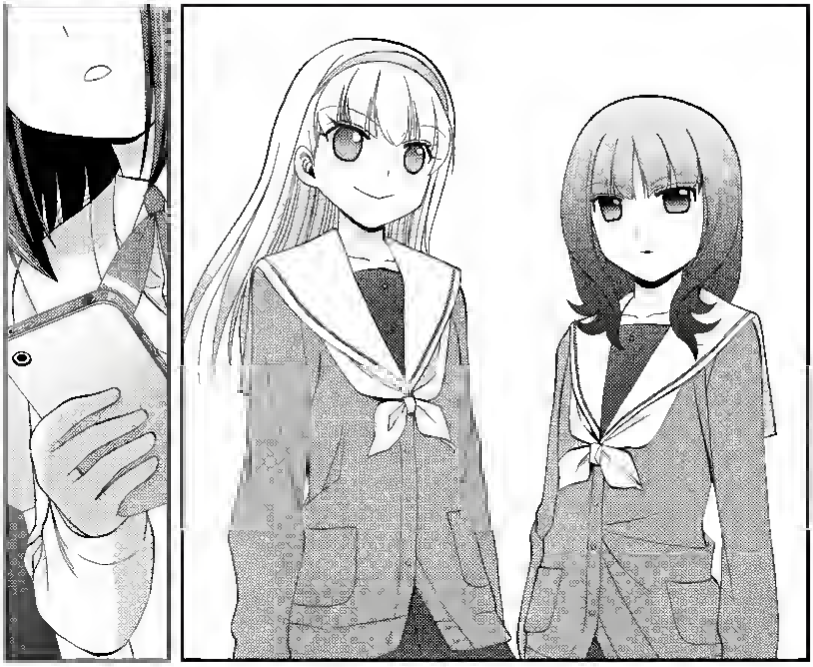

HIT THEM HARD!
YOU GOT IT
FIGHT!
DO YOUR BEST!
WELL THEN, TIME TO GO

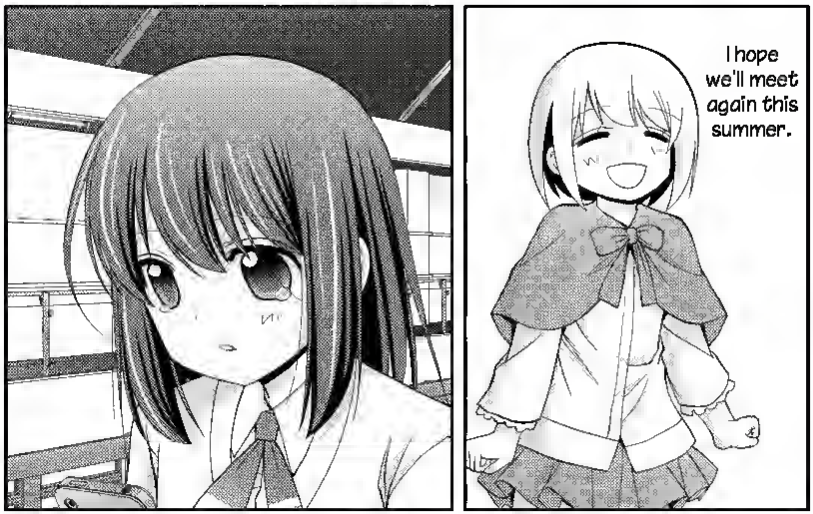


BZZ
BZZ
BZZ

Choko
We won our Prefectural Tournament! We did it!

Naoko
Shiratsuki-san, you do your best too. Let's meet in Tokyo.




I hope we'll meet again this summer.

白紙さんも頑張って
東京で会いましょう
★